



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

Raised Bill No. 575

LCO No. 2674

02674_____PH_

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:
(PH)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TASK FORCE
TO STUDY DAY PROGRAM SERVICES OFFERED THROUGH THE
DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force
2 to study all day program options provided by the Department of
3 Developmental Services, including, but not limited to, sheltered
4 workshops and any other program providing day services to persons
5 with developmental disabilities. Such study shall include, but not be
6 limited to, an examination of (1) the delivery of existing day program
7 services; (2) funding streams, both public and private, that successfully
8 finance existing day program services; (3) methodologies for the
9 reporting of reimbursements; and (4) competitive salary rates paid
10 under such programs and the methodologies used to determine such
11 salary rates.

12 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

13 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
14 one of whom is a representative from the Connecticut Association of

15 Nonprofits and one of whom shall be a representative from the
16 Connecticut Community Providers Association;

17 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, both
18 of whom shall be parents or legal guardians of persons with
19 developmental disabilities who receive day program services;

20 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
21 Representatives, who shall be a representative of a labor organization
22 whose members provide day program services;

23 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who shall be
24 a person who receives day program services from a publicly funded
25 day program;

26 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
27 Representatives, who shall be a person who receives day program
28 services from a privately funded day program;

29 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be
30 a representative from The Arc of Connecticut;

31 (7) The chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General
32 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health;

33 (8) The Commissioner of Developmental Services, or the
34 commissioner's designee;

35 (9) Two persons appointed by the Governor one of whom shall be a
36 representative from FORConn and one of whom shall be a
37 representative from People First of Connecticut; and

38 (10) A representative of the Bureau of Rehabilitative Services
39 appointed by the Commissioner of Social Services.

40 (c) All appointments to the task force shall be made no later than
41 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be
42 filled by the appointing authority.

43 (d) The Commissioner of Developmental Services, and the house
 44 chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
 45 having cognizance of matters relating to public health shall serve as
 46 the chairpersons of the task force. Such chairpersons shall schedule the
 47 first meeting of the task force, which shall be held no later than thirty
 48 days after the effective date of this section. Thereafter the task force
 49 shall meet at least on a monthly basis. The task force shall schedule
 50 public hearings as necessary to elicit public commentary from persons
 51 around the state.

52 (e) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
 53 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public
 54 health shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

55 (f) Not later than January 1, 2009, the task force shall report on its
 56 findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the
 57 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public
 58 health, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the
 59 general statutes. Such report shall include recommendations from the
 60 task force on methods that the Department of Developmental Services
 61 might employ to provide improved and more fiscally responsible day
 62 program services and shall also include recommendations for the
 63 phasing out of the existing sheltered workshops. The task force shall
 64 terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 1, 2009,
 65 whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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Statement of Purpose:

To establish a task force to study day program services provided by the Department of Developmental Services to persons with developmental disabilities.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]